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Saudi Arabia

Poultry and Products

Saudi Arabia Lifts Import Bans on U.S. Live Poultry and Hatching Eggs

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Report Highlights:

On July 31, 2004, the Saudi Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) lifted the temporary import bans imposed on live poultry and hatching eggs from the United States out of fear that they might be infected with Avian and/or West Nile Virus.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Riyadh [SA2]
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Saudi Arabia Lifts Ban Imposed on Imports of Live Poultry and Hatching Eggs from the United States

On July 31, 2004, the Saudi Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) lifted the temporary import bans imposed on live poultry and hatching eggs from the United States out of fear that they might be infected with Avian and/or West Nile Virus. The MOA still maintains the import embargo imposed on other live U.S. birds (falcons & ornamental birds) on November 5, 2003 due to the discovery of West Nile Virus in the States.

The MOA imposed the import bans on U.S. live poultry on two occasions:

1. On March 13, 2004, a temporary import ban on live poultry and hatching eggs was placed due to the reported infection of 85,800 five-week-old chickens with Avian in Kent and Sussex counties of Delaware.
2. On November 5, 2003, a similar ban was imposed on importation of live U.S. birds including day-old-chickens out of fear that they might be infected with the West Nile Virus.

The Saudi Ministry of Agriculture's decision to rescind the import bans will reopen the more than \$4.2 million export market for U.S. companies involved in the exportation of U.S. live poultry and hatching eggs to the Kingdom.

The following table shows the Kingdom's imports of U.S. live poultry and hatching eggs in 2003.

Product	Value in USD
Live poultry	842,000
Baby chicks	839,000
Eggs	2,563,000
Total	4,244,000

Source: U.S. Trade Statistics (FATUS Export Aggregations)